



CITY OF HAYWARD
AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE 03/20/01
AGENDA ITEM _____
WORK SESSION ITEM WS#3

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: City Manager
SUBJECT: Formation of Ad Hoc Committee To Address Issue of Rent Increases

At its February 20 worksession, the City Council reviewed the results of the resident survey. In response to the magnitude of the average rent increases reported in the survey, the Mayor suggested that the Council discuss possible formation of an ad hoc committee to develop recommendations on how the City can address this issue, particularly in light of current constraints under state law.


This item is before you in response to the Mayor's request.

As previously reported, staff has been meeting with an informal group of interested parties on this same subject. Participants include representatives from the Housing Authority, Eden Housing and the Rental Housing Owners Association, as well as staff from the City Attorney's Office and Community and Economic Development Department.

Assuming the Council is supportive of the Mayor's suggestion, I believe it can be accomplished by expanding membership in the aforementioned group to include individuals who offer the perspective of renters. Furthermore, given the sense of urgency associated with this issue, I suggest that the Council establish a 90-day timetable for receipt of specific recommendations.

Inasmuch as the South Hayward Neighborhood Collaborative and the Social Justice Committee of All Saints Church are also working on this very issue, I suggest that each organization be invited to select a representative to serve on the above-mentioned informal group.

At the same worksession, it was suggested that it is equally important to address the availability of affordable housing. In this regard, I believe the supply question can best be addressed in the context of the Housing Element, especially since state law calls for the Element to be updated by the end of this year. In light of this requirement, staff is already working on this matter and plans to present preliminary information to you next month.


Jesús Armas, City Manager